A SECOND LETTER TO A FRIEND,

Concerning the

French Invaſion.

In which the DECLARATION lately diſperſed under the Title of

His Majeſty's moſt Gracious Declaration, to all his Loving Subjects, Commanding their Aſſiſtance againſt the P. of Orange *and his Adherents,*

Is entirely and exactly Publiſhed, according to the diſperſed Copies; with ſome ſhort Obſervations upon it.

Dublin, Re-Printed by *Andrew Crook*, and are to be ſold by *William Norman* at *Colledg-Green*, *Eliphal Dobſon* and *Patrick Campbel* at their Shops in *Caſtle-ſtreet*. 1692.

So b'd had at Mr Brice Blair in Belfast

June 2d. 1692.

Let this be Printed,

Nottingham.

'66... 1502

A Second LETTER, CONCERNING The Late Kings James's Declaration.

SIR,

HAving in the Conclusion of my Letter promised you, if you desired it, to give you an Account of the late King *James*'s *Declaration*, I will make no Excuses, but like a *Sincere Protestant*, will keep my word with you.

This *Declaration* has been industriously scatter'd about both in *French* and *English*, by the Enemies of the *present Government*. Now to save them any farther trouble of this kind, and that the World may see, we dare venture it, with all the charms that are by some thought be in it, among the People of *England*, I have thought it the fairest way to print the whole, *verbatim*, *Paragraph* by *Paragraph*, with some short *Observations* upon it; and only desire you to remember, That my principal design in it is only to strengthen the Arguments of my former *Letter*, and to make it appear from this very Declaration, how little reason *English* Protestants have to promise themselves, That the late King will be kinder to them, than he was before, should he now return with a *French* Power.

DECLARATION.

WHEREAS the most Christian King, in pursuance of the many obliging promises he has made Us, of giving Us his Effectual Assistance for the recovering of Our Kingdoms, as soon as the condition of his Affairs would permit, has put us in a way of endeavouring it at this time; and in order to it, has lent Us so many of his Troops, as may be abundantly sufficient to unty the hands of our Subjects, and make it safe for them to return to their Duty, and repair to Our Standard; and has notwithstanding for the present, according to Our desire, (unless there should appear further necessity for it) purposely declin'd sending over Forces so Numerous, as might raise any jealousy in the minds of Our good Subjects, of his intending to take the Work wholly out of their hands, or deprive any true English-man *of the part he may hope to have in so Glorious an Action, as is that of Restoring his Lawful King, and his Antient Government; (all which Forreign Troops, as soon as we shall be fully settled in the quiet and peaceable Possession of Our Kingdoms, We do hereby promise to send back, and in the mean time to keep them in such exact Order and Discipline, that none of our Subjects shall receive the least Injury in their Persons or Possessions, by any Soldier or Officer whatsoever.) Tho' an Affair of this nature speaks for it self, nor do We think Our selves at all obliged to say any thing more upon this Occasion, than, That We come to assert our Just Rights, and to deliver Our People from the Oppression they lye under; yet when We consider how miserably many of Our Subjects were cheated into the late Revolution by the Art of ill men, and particularly by the Prince of* Orange's *Declaration, which was taken upon trust, and easily believed then, but since appears notoriously false in all the parts of it, consisting no less of Assertions that have been Evidently disproved, than of Promises that were never intended to be performed. To prevent the like Delusions for the time to come, and to do as much as lies in Our power, to open the Eyes of all Our Subjects, We are willing to lay the whole matter before them in as plain and short a manner as is possible, that they may not again pretend mistakes, or have ignorance to plead for any false steps they shall hereafter make towards the ruine of their Own, and their Countrys Happiness.*——

OBSERVATIONS.

It begins with a thing very surprizing and memorable, That the *French* King hath once in his life made good his Word, and kept his *Faith*; for so the late King *James* tells us he hath done with him, *in pursuance of the many Obliging* Promises *he had made him, of giving him Effectual Assistance for the Recovery of his Kingdoms*, &c. *Effectual Assistance* is a big word, and more than

than the *Greateſt* and *Moſt Puiſſant King* is able always to make good. However I am glad to ſee they begin to endeavour to perform their Promiſes to one another: It is a good quality, and it is to be hoped they may in time extend it further. But this ſatisfies me, that the *French King* thinks it his Intereſt to reſtore the late *King James*; for he was never known to keep his promiſe againſt his Intereſt; and it is ſomewhat ſurprizing, that the *French King*, and *Engliſh Proteſtants*, ſhould have *the ſame Intereſt*.

He ſeems ſenſible, that *French Troops* would not be very welcome in *England*; and therefore to qualifie this matter, he ſays, That the *French* King *at his deſire, has purpoſely declin'd ſending over Forces ſo Numerous, as might raiſe any Jealouſy* of a *French* Conqueſt; for that is the plain Engliſh of it; that they ſhall be kept under *exact Diſcipline* while they are here, and that he will ſend them home again, when *he is fully ſettled in the quiet and peaceable Poſſeſſion of his Kingdoms*. But I thank God with all my heart, that there is no danger now of theſe French Troops coming into *England*; which is a much greater ſecurity to us, than both theſe *Kings* Promiſes for their Good behaviour here, or for their return home again: It is certain, that *One* of them could not keep his Word, if he would; and it is as certain, that the *Other* would not, as it is, that it would not be his Intereſt to do it; for there is not the ſame reaſon for the *French* King to keep his Promiſe of ſending Troops into *England*, and to keep his Promiſe of ſending no more than the late King *James* wants, or of calling them home again when he wants them no longer. But before I proceed to more particular *Obſervations*, it will not be amiſs (and the concluſion of this Paragraph requires it) briefly to conſider what is not in the *Declation*, which the People of *England* had all the reaſon in the world to have expected in it.

Now I can find but very little in it, I might with great truth ſay, *nothing*, which a reaſonable Man who remembers the late *Reign*, eſpecially the *Concluſion* of it, would have expected in ſuch a *Declaration*.

If the Deſign of ſuch a *Declaration* be to give ſatisfaction to the minds of his Subjects, it ought at leaſt to have contained as good Words and fair promiſes, as a Prince could give: He knew very well, what it was that had alienated his Subjects from him; that they apprehended their *Laws*, their *Religion*, and their *Liberties*, to be in great danger; and could not but know, that he had given them too juſt occaſion for ſuch Jealouſies and Fears; and it is wonderfull, that he ſhould think of publiſhing a *Declaration*, and not think fit to give the leaſt ſatisfaction about theſe matters; not to ſay one word about *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*, nor to give any expreſs promiſe, that he would remove theſe fears.

The only thing he appeals to is the juſtice of his Cauſe; and does not think himſelf *obliged to ſay any thing more upon this occaſion, than that he comes to aſſert his own juſt Rights*, &c. But this was not the Controverſy between Him and his People; they did not diſpute then his Right to the Crown (tho' they have ſome Reaſon to do it now) and yet were willing to part with him,

when

when he thought fit to leave them; and if he knew what made them ſo, and hoped to return again by their Aſſiſtance, and with their good-liking, any one but thoſe of his own Council would have thought him obliged to ſay ſomething of it.

The Prince of *Orange*'s *Declaration* put him in mind of this, which he ſays *cheated his Subjects into the late Revolution*; and it had been much more to the purpoſe to have diſcovered the *cheat* of that *Declaration*, or to have ſaid nothing of it, than to affirm without any proof that now *it appears to be notoriouſly falſe in all the parts of it*; for *Engliſh Proteſtants* know nothing to this day, but that it is all true ſtill. Were there not in the late *Reign* open and bold attempts made againſt the *Laws*, the *Liberties*, and the *Religion* of theſe *Kingdoms*? Was not the *Diſpenſing Power* ſet on foot for thoſe purpoſes? Were not the *Judges* tamper'd with, to obtain a ſentence in favour of the *Diſpenſing Power*, and placed and diſplaced, till they could find fit Tools for that Work; men who would ſacrifice the *Laws* and *Religion* of their Countrey to the Will of their Prince, or to their own Covetouſneſs and Ambition? Were not the *Oaths* of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, and the *Teſt*, Diſpenſed with upon this pretence, and men unqualified by Law, put into *Eccleſiaſtical*, *Civil*, and *Military* Preferments, to the apparent danger both of *Church* and *State*? Was there no *Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſion* ſet up, no *Popiſh Chappels*, *Monaſterys* and *Convents* erected and endowed contrary to *Law*? Were not the *Nobility* and *Gentry* Cloſeted and Examined about the repeal of the *Teſt*, and thoſe diſgraced and turned out of all Offices and Employments, who would not comply? Were not the *Biſhops* ſent to the *Tower*, and Tried in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, for their humble *Petition* to him againſt reading the *Declaration*? Was not the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, and the greateſt Military Truſts put into the hands of *Papiſts*? Were not the *Charters* of *Cities*, *Towns* and *Corporations* ſeized into the *King*'s hands, and ſo new-modelled, that the *King* might chuſe what *Burgeſſes* he pleaſed, and have a *Houſe of Commons* of his own Creatures? Were there not viſible grounds of ſuſpition concerning the Birth of the pretended *Prince* of *Wales*? And has there been ſufficient ſatisfaction given the Nation about it to this day? Theſe are the Grievances complain'd of in the *Prince's Declaration* which were believed then, not upon the Authority of the *Declaration*, but becauſe they were ſeen and felt; and are believed ſtill, becauſe they are ſtill remembred by thoſe who ſaw and felt them; and how they have ſince *been evidently diſprov'd*, I cannot gueſs. But if ſuch things as theſe are not thought fit to be owned as miſtakes in Government; if it was not thought fit to promiſe the redreſs of any one of them, no not in his *Declaration*, whereby he commands and invites his *Subjects* to Aſſiſt him in recovering his Kingdoms; I can eaſily gueſs, that they will not be thought faults, much leſs be redreſs'd if he ſhould return: They muſt be his very *Loving Subjects* indeed, that can be thus impoſed upon.

DECLARATION.

And therefore, to take the matter from the beginning, it cannot be forgotten, That as ſoon as We had certain Notice *of the Prince of* Orange's *unnatural deſign of Invading Our Kingdoms, with the whole Power of the* United Provinces, *We firſt took the beſt care We could to provide for Our Defence; which We ſeem'd effectually to have done, when We had put Our Fleet and Army into ſuch a condition, that tho' his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, who well ſaw the bottom of the Deſign againſt Us, againſt Himſelf, and indeed, againſt the Peace of* Europe, *offered Us conſiderable Succours both by Land and Sea; We did not think it at all neceſſary to accept them at that time, as reſolving to caſt Our ſelves wholly (next to the Divine Protection) upon the Courage and Fidelity of Our* Engliſh *Army, which had been with ſo much care and tenderneſs form'd and obliged by Us. And having thus prepared to oppoſe Force to Force; We did, in the next place, apply Our ſelves to give all reaſonable ſatisfaction to the minds of Our good ſubjects, by endeavouring to undeceive them, and to let them ſee betimes, and whilſt the miſchief might eaſily have been prevented, how fatal a Ruin they muſt bring upon their Country, if they ſuffered themſelves to be ſeduc'd by the vain pretences of the* Prince of Orange's *Invaſion. However, ſo great was the infatuation of that time, that We were not believ'd till it was too late. But when he was oblig'd to throw off the Maſk by degrees, and that it began to appear plainly that it was not the reformation of the Government (which yet was a matter that did not at all belong to him to meddle with) but the Subverſion of it, that he aim'd at, that ſo he might build his own Ambitious deſigns upon the Ruins of the* Engliſh *Nation: And when the Poyſon had inſinuated it ſelf into the vital Parts of the Kingdom; When it had ſpread over our whole Army, and ſo far got into Our Court and Family, as not only to corrupt ſome of Our Servants that Were neareſt Our Perſon, and had been moſt highly obliged by us, but not even to leave Our own Children at that time uninfected: When Our Army daily Deſerted on the one hand, and on the other hand Tumults and Diſorders increaſed in all parts of the Kingdom; And eſpecially, when ſhortly after the Revolution came on ſo faſt, that We found Our ſelves wholly in Our Enemies Power, being at firſt confin'd by them in Our own Palace, and afterwards rudely forced out of it under a Guard of Foreigners; We could not then but be admoniſhed, by the Fate of ſome of Our Predeceſſors in the like circumſtances, of the danger We were in, and that it was high time to provide for the ſecurity of Our Perſon (which was happily effected by Our getting from the Guard that was ſet upon us at* Rocheſter, *and Our arrival in* France, *the only part in* Europe *to which We could retire with ſafety) that ſo We might preſerve Our ſelves for better times, and for a more happy opportunity; ſuch as is that, which, by the Bleſſing of God, is at preſent put into Our Hands.*

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

To begin with the *Certain notice of the* P. *of* Orange's *Design*, is not *to take the matter from the beginning*. Had he intended to give any ſatisfaction to *Engliſh* Subjects, he ſhould have begun where their Complaints and Grievances, occaſioned by his *Arbitrary* and *Illegal* Government, began; that is, where the *Prince*'s Deſign, and his own *Abdication* began. That he *took the beſt care he could for his own defence*, no man queſtions; and had he taken leſs, it would not have been taken ill by the Nation. That his *Chriſtian Majeſty ſaw this Deſign was againſt himſelf*, long before the *late King* was ſenſible of it, appears from the *Memorial* printed at the *Hague*, 9. *Septemb.* 1688. by *Monſieur de Conte d' Avaux*, the *French King*'s *Ambaſſadour*: But when he ſays 'twas *againſt the Peace of* Europe, I confeſs I know not how to underſtand it unleſs by the Peace of *Europe*, his *Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty* mean an *Univerſal Deſolation*, which he was making as faſt as he could. For this cannot be denied to be amoſt certain and effectual way of ſetling a *Country* in peace, to lay it waſte, and to deſtroy, and drive out the Inhabitants. To prevent which indeed, was the bottom of this *Deſign*; and the moſt effectual way to do it. was to divide *England* from the Intereſt of *France*.

That the *French King*, to prevent this, did offer *King James* the Aſſiſtance of his forces is very probable from the ſame memorial which threatens the Dutch with it and how this aſſiſtance came to be refuſed, we learn from my *Lord Sunderland*'s Letter, printed in the *Hiſtory of the Deſertion*, which, and ſome other Counſels (that thwarted the *Popiſh* Deſigns) coſt him his *Religion*, and ſoon after the Favour of his *Prince*, and his Preferments at Court.

That he had no ſuch great Confidence in *the Fidelity of his Engliſh Army*, was too evident in the daily Reformations he made in it; exchanging *Proteſtants* for *Papiſts*, and *Engliſh*-men for *Iriſh*; which occaſioned that memorable Accident at *Portſmouth*, which gave ſuch a general diſguſt to the Army, in a very lucky Seaſon, as greatly diſpoſed them either to go over to the *Prince*, or at leaſt not to fight againſt him.

That he did many things in the time of his diſtreſs to ſweeten his Subjects, is true; but he was much miſtaken if he thought this ſufficient to give reaſonable ſatisfaction. He undid many things, which he had illegally done; but he did this ſo late, and it was ſo apparently a matter of force, owing to the change of his Fortune, not of his Inclinations, and then too, done with ſo ill a grace, that I could obſerve no body that was then ſatisfied with it.

He reſtored the *Charter* of *London*, and of other *Cities* and *Corporations*; He diſſolved the *Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſion*, reſtored *Magdallen College*, but never own'd the Illegality of theſe Proceedings; would never renounce *his diſpencing Power*; would never be perſwaded by the moſt humble

humble Petitions, and earneſt Importunities of his Lords and Biſhops, to call a Free Parliament, and to referr the redreſs of all Grievances to them; till he ſeems to have formed a Deſign of leaving *England*, and then his iſſuing out of *Writs*, which he reſolved ſhould never be executed, could do him no hurt, and would have a good appearance, as if he had been willing to have referr'd all to a *Parliament*, had not the growing Power of his Enemies made it more neceſſary for him to conſult the ſafety of his own Perſon.

The Caſe of *Magdalen* Colledge convinced all men, that theſe were Extorted Favours, and would laſt no longer, than it was ſafe to recall them.

King *James* had given his Orders to the Biſhop of *Winchester*, the *Viſitor* of that *Colledge*, to recall Dr. *Hough*, and the former *Fellows* of that Society, and he accordingly went down to reinſtate them; but upon the News that the *Dutch* Fleet had ſuffered much in a Storm, and probably could not ſail till the next Spring, His Lordſhip had new Orders ſent to call him back; but that News proving falſe, he was permitted to return, and to purſue his firſt Orders: This, it ſeems, was *all the reaſonable ſatisfaction* that could be given, what his Graces and Favours to *Proteſtants* were, and how long they would laſt.

As for what concerns the Prince of *Orange*, now our Gracious *King*, I know of no maſk he had on, nor that ever he threw off, or that He afterwards appeared to be any other than his *Declaration* had repreſented Him. He came not for the *Crown*, but to *reform Abuſes*, and *to ſecure the Succeſſion*, which the Right of his *Princeſs*, and his own Right and Intereſt, the preſervation of the *Proteſtant Religion*, and of the Liberties of *Europe*, gave Him Right and Authority to meddle with; but beſides his Expectation, and original Intention, he has the Crown which he came not for: He has deceived no body in it; but if any one be deceived, King *James*, and the People of *England* have deceived Him; the one in leaving his Crown, the other in placing it on his Head; where indeed it ought to be, both in right of His *Princeſs*, and for his own Merits; for He who ſaves a Nation, had He no other Claim or Title, may very well deſerve to wear the Crown, eſpecially when it was with the Free Conſent of the *Princeſs*, our Moſt Gracious Queen, and upon the deſire of the *Eſtates of the Realm*, and ſtill neceſſary to ſave the Nation.

In the next place, He juſtifieth his leaving *England*, for *the ſecurity of his* Perſon, *being wholly in the Enemies power, at firſt confined by them in his own Palace, and afterwards rudely forced out of it under a Guard of Forreigners.* But if he have forgot it, others have not, that before this happened, he had privately withdrawn his *Perſon*, diſbanded his *Army*, diſſolved his *Government*, flung his *Broad Seal* into the *Thames*, and had never had this pretence for his Eſcape, had he not been ſtopped by a miſtake, for no body intended to ſtay him, and all this while he was in Treaty with the Prince, and that upon ſuch equal Terms, that he could be under no juſt apprehenſion of ill uſage.

He excuſes his going to *France*, becauſe it was the only part in *Europe*, to which he could retire with ſafety; which is a Confeſſion that he alone was in the *French* Intereſt againſt all *Europe* beſides; and that he durſt not truſt

his Cauſe with any other Prince in Chriſtendom; which argues either a great jealouſy of his own Cauſe, or of their Juſtice and Honour, even to diſtreſſed Princes. But I am ſure *France* was the only place in *Europe* he ought to have avoided; and if he had no other place to go to, he ought to have ventured himſelf at home, or to have gone to *Rome*. which had been a kind of *Second Home*, unleſs he intended to reſign his Crown. He knew what Opinion *Engliſh* Subjects had of *His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, and might have known, that they would never fetch him from *France* again, nor willingly receive him with a *French* Power. What a *happy Opportunity* he now has to recover his Kingdoms again by *French* Troops, I ſuppoſe by this time he begins to diſcern; and I hope it may prove a very happy Opportunity for his *Dear Ally* to loſe *his*: He has ſhewed him by his own example what to do in ſuch caſes; and the *Engliſh Parliament* has taught the *French* what name to give it.

DECLARATION.

Upon what foundation of Juſtice, or Common Senſe, the Prince of Orange's *Faction in* England, *were pleaſed to treat this Eſcape of Ours out of the Hands of Our Enemies, in the ſtile of an* Abdication; *a word when apply'd to Sovereign Princes, that was never before uſed to ſignify any thing but a free and voluntary Reſignation of a Crown, as in the Caſes of the Emperour* Charles *the Fifth, and the late Queen of* Sweden; *and what a ſtrange Superſtructure they raiſed upon this weak Foundation, that a Company of Men Illegally met together, who had not Power, even by their own Confeſſion at that time (for it was before they had voted themſelves a Parliament) to charge the Intereſt of the meaneſt Subject; ſhould yet take upon them to deſtroy the whole Conſtitution of the Government, to make an Antient Hereditary Monarchy become Elective; and then aſſuming to themſelves the Right of Election, ſhould proceed to ſettle the Succeſſion in ſo odd and extravagant a manner, are Tranſactions that need not be repeated: They are too well known to the World, to the great Reproach of the* Engliſh *Nation; and the Grounds upon which they are Built, are too vain and frivolous to deſerve a Confutation. Every Free-holder of* England *is, in this Caſe, able to make his own Obſervations. and will no doubt, examine a little better than hitherto he has done, what aſſurance any private Man can have of keeping his Eſtate, if the King himſelf ſhall hold his Crown by no better a Title.*

OBSERVATIONS.

His leaving the Kingdom for the ſafety of his Perſon, *and to preſerve himſelf for better times, and for a more happy Opportunity*, he ſays, was no *Abdication*, as that ſignifies *a voluntary reſignation of his Crown*, nor do I ſay it was: But his withdrawing his Perſon and Authority, was an actual quitting of the Government: whatever it is in Law, I'me ſure in common ſenſe, the Throne is actually empty, when no body is in it; and no body is in it, when there is no Authority in the Nation to Adminiſter the Government. And when the Throne is empty, the *Eſtates of the Realm*, (who are the only Supream Authority, when there is no Monarch) muſt fill it again, unleſs the Government muſt diſſolve; and then there is an End of all Rites and Claims and this they have done, not *by turning an Antient Hereditary Monarchy* into an *Elective*, but by placing the next undoubted Heir on the Throne

Throne: And tho' he never intended to give up his Right and future Claim, yet he has done what he never intended to do: when the Throne is empty, it muſt be fill'd; and when it is declared vacant, and fill'd by the *Supream Authority* of the Nation, there is no room for him there.

As for the *Convention* of *Eſtates*; When there was no King on the Throne we do not pretend that they were a formal Parliament, for that muſt have a King at the Head of it; and therefore, as is obſerved in the Declaration, they could impoſe no legal Taxes on Subjects, nor did they attempt it; but yet they were not a Company of Men illegally met together, without Authority to do any thing; but they met at the requeſt, and under the protection of the *then* Prince of *Orange*, upon the Fundamental reaſons of the *Conſtitution* it ſelf, as the ſole Judges of all Diſputes relating to the Crown. Such diſputes will ſometimes happen, and if there be no legal Judges of it, the Sword muſt decide it, and that is a State of *War*, not of *Civil Government*, which all Governments are ſuppoſed to provide againſt; and yet if the *Convention* of the *Eſtates* are not the proper Judges in ſuch caſes, it is certain there are none; and then the Civil Government is diſſolved; we are in a State of War, and muſt ſubmit to the longeſt Sword. But this is ſo fully and plainly Stated in the late ingenious *Reflexions on the Caſe of Allegiance to a King in poſſeſſion*, from *p.* 26. to *p.* 34. That to ſhorten this Letter as much as I can, I ſhall referr you to that Author for further ſatisfaction.

So that *Free-holders* are not at all concern'd in this matter; a *Convention* of *Eſtates* without a King, cannot meddle with their properties without a diſſolution of the Government; But when there is no King, or it is a Queſtion whether there be or not, or who is King by the Fundamental Conſtitution of the Government, the *Convention* of the *Eſtates* are the ſole and proper Judges of it; in whoſe Determination, all private Subjects are bound in Conſcience to acquieſce. And the late King need not complain of this, as if it made the Titles of Princes to Their Crowns very uncertain and Arbitrary: For he had an unqueſtionable Title to his Crown, and might have held it to this day, if he himſelf had not undermin'd it, by breaking in upon the Laws, and even upon the Conſtitution it ſelf: upon which his Right was founded: This occaſion'd ſuch a Revolution, as forced him to Abdicate, and to leave it to a Convention, to declare his Throne *vacant*, and to fill it.

DECLARATION.

"*But ſince ſome Men, who could not ſay one word in defence of the Juſtice of theſe Proceedings, would yet take great pains to ſhew the neceſſity of them, & ſet forth the extraordinary good effects that were to be expected from ſo very bad a Cauſe; We do not doubt but the Nation has by this time caſt up the Account, and when they ſhall have well conſider'd, what Wonders might have been perform'd with leſs Expence of* Engliſh *Blood than that which has been unneceſſarily trifled away in this Quarrel; that ſuch a Number of Ships of War have been loſt and deſtroy'd in the Three years laſt paſt, as might alone have been ſufficient to have made a conſiderable Fleet: That more Money has been drain'd out of the Purſes of our Subjects*

in compass of that time, than during the whole Reigns of many of our Predecessors put together; and that not as formerly, spent again, and circulating among them, but transported, in specie, into Foreign Parts, and for ever lost to the Nation: When these and many other Particulars of this Nature are cast up, it must certainly appear at the Foot of the Account, how much worse the Remedy is than the fancied Desease, and that, at least hitherto, the Kingdom is no great Gainer by the Change.

OBSERVATONS.

I doubt his late Majesty is misinformed; for these are not only *some*, but a great many, who have more than *one word* to say, both for the *Justice*, and the *Necessity* of these Proceedings, and the whole Nation already feels *the extraordinary good effects of them*, notwithstanding the expence of Blood and Treasure, of which he complains; for we know whom we are to thank for that. And the best way to prevent the effusion of more Blood, and the expence of more Money, is to keep out his *French Troops*, and to know when we are well. Revolutions are and will be Bloody, and Chargeable, and therefore one *Revolution* is enough for one Age: The *Dutch* are already pay'd, and we don't desire to pay the *French* too; which is a much longer Account, and we shall get less by it. We have hitherto had something for our Money, and something that is very valuable; our *Laws* and *Liberties* and *Religion*; but I believe the Nation will think it a hard bargain, to pay ten times the price for *French* Popery and *Slavery*.

The Nation, as he says, has *cast up the Account*, and I believe above Nineteen parts in Twenty, have consider'd the matter so well, that they are come to a fixt Resolution to oppose the intended *Invasion*, to the utmost of their Power.

As for the loss of the *Ships of War*, it now appears (God for ever be praised for it) that *Their Majesties* have a *Fleet* still left, Considerable enough, and Faithful too (notwithstanding all the Arts and Endeavours of our Enemies to Debauch them from their Allegiance) to deal with, and even to destroy the *Naval Power* of *France*.

DECLARATION.

The next Consideration is, What may reasonably be expected for the time to come: And as to that, no better judgment can be made of any future Events than by Reflecting upon what is past: And doubtless from the Observation of the Temper and Complexion, the Methods and Maxims of the present Usurper, from the Steps he has already taken, when it was most necessary for him to give no distaste to the People, as well as from the Nature of all Usurpation, which can never be supported but by the same ways of Fraud and Violence by which it was first set up, there is all the Reason in the World to believe, that the beginning of this Tyranny, like the Five first Years of Nero, *is like to prove the mildest part of it; and all they have yet suffer'd, is but the beginning of the Miseries which those very Men, who were the great Promoters of the Revolution, may yet live to see and feel, as the Effects of that Illegal and Tyrannical Government, which they themselves first impos'd upon the Kingdoms.*

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

There is no Anſwer needs be given to this, which may always be ſaid of the beſt Beginnings of the beſt Government: We for our part find no fault with *His* Majeſty's Government yet, and ſee no reaſon to ſuſpect it for the future: Taxes are the only Cauſe of Complaint now, and yet few complain of them but *Jacobites*, who out of their great Zeal for the late *King*, pay double Taxes to the preſent Government to keep him out, which does him more miſchief than *Jacobite* Oaths could do; and yet thanks be to God, we have a hopeful Proſpect of the end of theſe Taxes, and have been ſo well repaid of late, that we ſhall not grudge to clear the Account, that we may have ſomething to call our own. But of all Men in the World (excepting always *His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*) the *late King* ſhould not attempt to frighten us with the Dangers of Miſgovernment, for a good Reaſon in which himſelf is too nearly concern'd, and which *all Engliſh Proteſtant Subjects* very well know. As to what relates to the firſt five Years of *Nero*. This certainly is a piece of the *Secretary*'s own *Pedantry*, to ſhew his great Reading, and to impart to us one of the choiceſt Secrets in the *Roman* Hiſtory. All Compariſons of Princes with *Nero* are very odious, but I know not how he could have made one more to the advantage of King *William*, than to compare his Reign hitherto with the five firſt Years of *Nero*, which the *Roman* Hiſtorians tells us may compare with that of the beſt of their Emperors. But however, this I am ſure of, that it is better to begin a *Reign* as *Nero* did, than to begin where he ended, as two other Kings have done, and to go on to improve and perfect that ill *Pattern*; to which, if God had not mercifully prevented it, they were, not above a Month ago, juſt ready to have given their laſt hand, and the finiſhing ſtrokes.

DECLARATION.

And yet the Conſideration muſt not reſt here neither: For all wiſe Men ought, and all good Men will take care of their Poſterity; and therefore it is to be remembred, that if it ſhould pleaſe Almighty God, as one of his ſevereſt Judgments upon theſe Kingdoms, for the many Rebellions and Perjuries they have been guilty of, ſo far to permit the Continuation of the preſent Uſurpation, that we ſhould not be reſtor'd during our Life-time, yet an indiſputable Title to the Crown will ſurvive in the Perſon of our deareſt Son the Prince of Wales, *our preſent Heir apparent, and his Iſſue, and, for default of that, in the Iſſue of ſuch other Sons as we have great reaſon to hope (the Queen being now with Child) we may yet leave behind us: And what the Conſequences of that is like to be, may eaſily be underſtood by all that are not ſtrangers to the long and bloody Contentions between the two Houſes of* York, *and* Lancaſter; *and whoever ſhall read the Hiſtories of thoſe Times, and there ſhall have preſented to him as in one view a Scene of all the Miſeries of an Inteſtine War, the perpetual harraſſing of the poor Commons by Plunder and Free-quarter, the ruine of many noble Families by frequent Executions and Attainders, the weakning of the whole Kingdom in general at home, and the loſing thoſe advantages they might in the mean time have procur'd for themſelves abroad, cannot but conclude that theſe are the natural Effects of thoſe Struggling and Convulſions that muſt ne-*

ceſſa-

ceſſarily happen in every State, where there is a Diſpute entail'd between an injured Right and an unjuſt Poſſeſſion.

OBSERVATIONS.

This will need but a very ſhort Anſwer. For as to the Civil Wars he threatens our Proſperity with from the Pretences of the *Prince of Wales*, I muſt needs ſay, I had rather, if it muſt come to fighting, that they ſhould fight for the Crown twenty or thirty Years hence, then now. *Give peace in our days, O Lord.* I had rather our Poſterity ſhould enſlave themſelves, if they ſhall have a mind to be enſlaved, then that we ſhould enſlave our ſelves and our Poſterity with us. There is no ſuch haſte of bringing in *Popery* and *Slavery*, and it is to be hoped, if we be true to our *Religion* and *Liberties*, our Poſterity may grow wiſe by our Example. But I muſt obſerve, that whereas the *Prince of Wales* in this *Engliſh Declaration* is called the *Heir apparent*, in the *French* Declaration he is called only the *Preſumtive Heir*. Perhaps *Preſumptive Heir* in the *French* Law may be the ſame with *Heir apparent* in *ours*: If it be not, What did Sir *E. H.* or whoever was the Penman of this *Declaration*, mean by it? Will they ſet aſide the Pretences of the *Prince of Wales*, if the late Queen *Mary* (who is ſaid to be with Child) in good truth bring forth a Son? this looks very ſuſpiciouſly, as if they did not believe, they had given ſufficient Satisfaction, about the *Birth* of this Pretended *Prince of Wales* but however we muſt preſume him *Prince of Wales*, till they have another whom they can by better proof make out to be the unqueſtionable Son of the late Queen *Mary*.

DECLARATION.

There is another Conſideration that ought to be of weight with all Chriſtians; *and that is the calamatious Condition of* Europe, *now almoſt univerſally engaged in a War among themſelves at a time when there was the greateſt hopes of Succeſs againſt the* Common Enemy, *and the faireſt Proſpect of Enlarging the Bounds of the* Chriſtian *Empire, that ever was in any Age ſince the declining of the* Roman: *And ſo far from the hopes of a general* Peace *before our Reſtoration, that no rational project of a Treaty can be form'd in order to it: But that once done, the thing will be eaſie, and we ſhall be ready to offer our* Mediation, *and interpoſe all the good Offices we can with* his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty *for the obtaining of it.*

OBSERVATIONS.

This whole *Period* is a ſharp and perpetual *Satyr* againſt the *French King*: For who has been the great Diſturber of the Peace of *Europe*, but *his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*? With whom are all the Princes of *Europe* at War but with Him? Who elſe has hindred the ſucceſs againſt the Common Enemy, and the enlarging the bounds of the Chriſtian Empire? Who invited the *Turk* into *Europe*? Who encourages him to continue the War, after ſo many Fatal Defeats, which may probably prove the ruin of his whole Empire? In a word, what other *Chriſtian Prince* is the *Great Turk's* Ally and Confederate in this War? And is not this War continued and encouraged by all the Power and Intereſt of the *French King*, on purpoſe to diſturb the *Peace* of *Europe*, that while

while the *Imperial Forces*, are otherwiſe employ'd, he may make a prey of his weaker Neighbours? It is decent to ſpare *Crowned Heads*, and ſuch as have been Crowned; but the *Penman* of this *Declaration* deſerves his Reward for putting in ſo many notorious Falſhoods, as may juſtly call the truth and ſincerity of the whole in Queſtion. I know but one Excuſe for him, that he has made it almoſt all of a piece, and though he has had little regard to Truth, yet he has ſo ordered the matter, that he can deceive no body but thoſe who have a great mind to be deceived; and it is not amiſs that ſuch ſhould be gratified.

Who but the late King could hope to perſwade the World, that to reſtore him to his Kingdoms is abſolutely neceſſary to the Peace of Europe, that before his Reſtoration no rational projects of a Treaty can be formed in order to a Peace. He may be miſtaken in this, for the *French* King may quickly be glad to make peace, and leave Him and his Reſtoration out of the Treaty For things are come to that extremity now, that it is in vain to think of peace, till *Lewis the Great* be reduced to ſuch a ſtate, as to accept it, and unable to break it: And then this Argument returns upon him; for the peace of *Europe* is a neceſſary Reaſon why he ſhould not be reſtored, as I obſerved in my former Letter.

But He, who could fancy himſelf to be a proper and effectual *Mediator* for a Peace, if he were reſtored, muſt have liberty to fancy any thing; and it is happy for him that he has ſo comfortable an Imagination: I do really pity him too much to endeavour to diſpoſſeſs him of it; becauſe that would be to *undo* Him more than He is already *undone*

DECLARATION.

Since therefore We come with ſo good purpoſes, and ſo good a Cauſe, the Juſtice of which is founded upon the Laws both of God and Man, ſince the Peace of Europe, *as well as of Our own Kingdoms, the proſperity of preſent and future Ages is concerned in the ſucceſs of it, We hope We ſhall meet with little Oppoſition, but that all Our Loving Subjects, according to the Duty and the Oath of their Allegiance, and as We hereby Command and Require them to do, will joyn with Us, and Aſſiſt Us to the utmoſt of their* Power.

OBSERVATIONS.

I can ſay little to this; the Event will beſt ſhew, whether the People of *England* will think his Cauſe ſo good, and the Reaſons for his Reſtauration ſo preſſing, as to aſſiſt him in it.

DECLARATION.

And We do hereby ſtrickly forewarn and prohibit any of Our Subjects whatſoever, either by Collecting or paying any of the Illegal Taxes lately impoſed upon the Nation, or any part of Our Revenue, or by any other ways to Abet or Support the preſent Uſurpation. And that We may do all that can be thought of to win over all Our Subjects to Our Service, that ſo, if it be poſſible, We may have none but the Uſurper and his Forreign Troops to deal with; and that none may be forced to continue in their Rebellion by deſpair of Our Mercy for what they have already done, We do hereby Declare and Promiſe, by the Word of a King, That all Perſons whatſoever, how guilty ſoever they may have been (except the Perſons following, viz. *The Duke of* Ormond, *Marqueſs of* Winchester, *Earl of* Sanderland, *Earl*

of Bath, *Earl of* Danby, *Earl of* Nottingham, *Lord* Newport, *Bishop of* London, *Bishop of St.* Asaph, *Lord* Delamere, *Lord* Wiltshire, *Lord* Colchester, *Lord* Cornbury, *Lord* Dunblane, John *Lord* Churchil, *Sir* Robert Howard, *Sir* John Worden, *Sir* Samuel Grimstone, *Sir* Stephen Fox, *Sir* George Treby, *Sir* Basil Dixwel, *Sir* James Oxendon, *Dr.* Tillotson *Dean of* Canterbury, *Dr.* Gilbert Burnet, Francis Russel, Richard Levison, John Trenchard, *Esquires*; Charles Duncomb, *Citizen of* London, Edwards, Napleton, Hunt, *Fisherman, and all others who offer'd Personal Indignities to Us at* Feversham; *except also all Persons who as Judges or Jurymen, or otherwise had a hand in the Barbarous Murther of Mr.* John Ashton, *and of Mr.* Cross, *or of any others who have been illegaitlly condemned and Executed for their Loyalty to Us; and all Spies, and such as have betrayed Our Counsels during Our late Absence from* England) *that by an early return to their Duties, and by any Signal mark of it, as by Seizing to Our Use, or Delivering into Our Hands any of Our Forts, or by bringing over to Us any Ships of War, or Troops in the Usurpers Army, or any new raised and Armed by themselves, or by any other Eminent good Service, according to their several Opportunities and Capacities, shall manifest the sincerity of their Repentance, shall not only have their respective Pardons immediately passed under the Great Seal of* England, *but shall otherwise be Considered and Rewarded by Us, as the merit of their Case shall require. And for all others who after the time of Our Landing shall not appear in Arms against Us, nor do any Act or Thing in Opposition to Our Restauration, the Persons before mentioned only excepted, We shall provide in Our first Parliament (which We intend to call with all convenient speed) by a General Act of Indemnity, that so the minds of all Our Subjects may be as quiet, and as much at ease, as their Persons and Properties will be secure and inviolable under Our Government.*

Provided always, That all Magistrates who expect any Benefit of Our Gracious Pardon, shall immediately after Notice of Our Landing make some publick Manifestation of their Allegiance to Us, and of their Submission to Our Authority; and also Publish and cause to be Proclaimed this Our Declaration as soon as it shall come to their Hands; and likewise that all Keepers *of Prisons immediately set at Liberty all* Persons *Committed to their Custody upon the Account of Their Allegiance and Affection to Us, or be excluded from any Benefit of Our* Pardon.

And We do hereby further Declare, That all Officers or Soldiers by Sea or Land, now engaged in the Usurpers Service, who shall after Notice of Our Landing, at any time before they Engage in any Fight or Battle against Our Forces, quit the said Illegal Service, and return to their Duty, shall not only have their respective Pardons, but shall likewise be fully satisfied and paid all the Arrear due to them from the Usurper: And that even the Forreigners themselves, who have been as well in Troops as single Persons drawn into this Kingdom, in Order to Lift them as there should be occasion for the Opposing Our Return, and continuing Our People in the Oppression they lie under, may not be altogether driven to despair, We do promise, that all such of them as shall, as aforesaid, before they Engage against any of our Forces, lay down their Arms, and claim the Benefit of Our present Declaration, shall have their Arrears satisfyed, and care shall be taken for their Transportation to their respective Countries, or elsewhere as they shall reasonably desire.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

Let us now consider the Grace and Favour promised in this *Declaration*. For *Grace* and *Pardon*, &c. are very good things, when we need them, but yet no man would chuse to need them, if he could help it. If the *late King's Restoration* were desirable upon other Accounts, and nothing hindred Subjects from returning to their Duty and Allegiance but fear of punishment for what is past, the promise of Pardon would be a very good Argument to encourage Subjects to assist him in his Return; but meerly that we shall be pardoned, is no Argument to bring him back, because we shall need no pardon if we don't; and that is always the surest side, to need no pardon, much surer than any promise of pardon the late King can make.

And yet he has used that great Caution in his promise of pardon, as if he were afraid we should expect more than he intends to give, and should charge him with a new breach of promise, when we come to *Tower-Hill* or *Tyburn*.

We see whom he has excepted, but it is not easy to know who is pardoned; the truth is, he has put all the Subjects of *England* under a necessity of forfeiting their pardon, when he recovers his Throne, or of being hang'd or *Mobb'd*, at least or venturing both, before *He* can be in a condition to pardon. All are excepted from this pardon, who shall either appear in Arms against him, or do any Act or Thing in Opposition to his Restoration. Now, to collect or pay any of the Illegal Taxes, or any part of the Revenue of the Crown, *are expresly forbid*, as abetting or supporting the present Usurpation; and therefore to pay Taxes is one of the *Acts or Things* which excludes from pardon, and this excepts the whole Nation at once. And for the comfort of the *Clergy*, to pray for King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and for the success of their Arms, especially after the late King is landed, will certainly be *doing an Act or Thing in Opposition to his Restoration*. And all *Magistrates* are in a very hopeful Condition, who are excluded from pardon, unless they *shall immediately after Notice of his Landing, make some Publick Manifestation of their Allegiance to Him, and of their Submission to his Authority, and cause his Declaration to be Proclaim'd as soon as it shall come to their Hands*.

This is a very *Gracious* Pardon, which Men must purchase at the price of their Necks, and yet how far this pardon will extend, we know not; it may be only to *Life*, for here is no mention of *Fortunes* or *Honours*: and yet it is but a meer pardon; here is not one kind word given to the *Protestant Nobility, Gentry*, or *Clergy*; no promise to employ them in his *Councils*, or any *Civil* or *Military* Trusts; and when we know how he has hitherto kept his promises, we have little reason to expect that he will now do more then he has promised.

But besides the Exceptions from pardon in general words, which upon one Account or other do involve the whole Nation, there are some things very Remarkable as to the persons by Name Excepted. Most of them I believe are not sorry for it, because they know their case would have been the same, had they not been excepted; and possibly others may hope, their case may be the better for being excepted. But why Sir *St. F.* and Sir *S. G.*? They are both of them very worthy and honest Gentlemen, and I dare almost be

their *Compurgatour*, as to having had any hand in *Revolutions*: But I muſt confeſs both of them have Eſtates very worthy to be excepted. And ſome ſuch Reaſon probably there may be for excepting Sir *F. O.* and Sir *E. D.* of *Kent*, for it cannot but come into every bodies mind, how conveniently their Eſtates lye to make a Compenſation to Sir *E. H.* for his great Merits and Sufferings. But why deſcend ſo low as to except poor *Hunt* the Fiſherman? This I take to be a true ſtroke of Secretary *Meſſorts Popiſh Bigottry*, and put in on purpoſe to let us know that effectual care will be taken, that the late King, when ever he returns, ſhall have ſo exact a Memory, that the Merits of the meaneſt Man in *England* ſhall not be forgotten. You ſee what the pardon is, and thoſe who like it may merit it, if they pleaſe.

DECLARATION.

And we do hereby further declare and promiſe, That we will protect and maintain the Church of England, as it is now by Law eſtabliſhed, in all their Rights, Priviledges, and Poſſeſſions: And that upon all Vacancies of Biſhopricks, and other Dignities, and Benefices within our Diſpoſal, care ſhall be taken to have them filled with the moſt Worthy of their own Communion.

OBSERVATIONS.

Here he promiſes to protect and defend the *Church of England*, which will be a great Favour indeed from him, if he ſhould return with a *French Power*. But the *Church of England* is protected alread by *Princes*, who think in their Duty to do it: And we think our ſelves much ſafer in the Inclinations of a Proteſtant King and Queen than we can be in all the Promiſes of a zealous Papiſt. And therefore this can be no argument in our caſe, becauſe it offers us a worſe ſecurity for our Protection than what we already have; for it is always great odds on Nature's ſide. And yet this Promiſe to the *Church of England* ſeems fainter and cooler, than ſome he has formerly made, which is all the reaſon we have to expect it will be better kept; eſpecially there being not the leaſt Intimation of the Breach of his former Promiſes, nor any excuſe made for it. And it is fit to be obſerved, that whereas he promiſes, that upon all Vacancies of Biſhopricks, and other Dignities and Benifices within our Diſpoſal, care ſhall be taken to have them filled with the moſt Worthy of their own Communion; there is not one word ſaid of Univerſities and Colledges; though the Caſe of *Magdalen Colledge* is ſo very notorious, and ſo freſh in every Man's Memory, that there is hardly a Yeoman or Artificer in the Nation, that has not a lively Remembrance of it. *Church of England men* then ſhall at preſent have the *Churches*, and *Papiſts* the *Colledges* to breed up a *Roman Catholick* Succeſſion of honeſt *Obediah*'s.

DECLARATION.

And whereas more Tumults and Rebellions have been rais'd in all Nations upon the Account of Religion, then on all other pretences put together; and more in England then in all the reſt of the World beſides; That therefore Men of all Opinions in Matters of Religion may be reconciled to the Government, that they may no longer look upon it as their Enemy, but may therefore think themſelves equally concern'd in the Preſervation of it with the reſt of their Fellow ſubjects, becauſe they are equally well treated by it, and being convinc'd in our Judgment, that Liberty of Conſcience is moſt agreeable to the Laws and the Spirit of the Chriſtian Religion,

ligion, *and moſt conducing to the Wealth and Proſperity of our Kingdoms, by encouraging Men of all Countries and Perſwaſions to come and Trade with us, and ſettle amongſt us: For theſe Reaſons we are reſolved moſt earneſtly to recommend to our* Parliament *the ſettling* Liberty of Conſcience *in ſo Beneficial a manner, that it may remain a laſting Bleſſing to this Kingdom.*

OBSERVATIONS.

In this *Paragraph*, for the peace of the Nation, and for the Advancement of Trade, he promiſes earneſtly to recommend to the Parliament the ſettling *Liberty of Conſcience*: But this is no Argument to the Diſſenters, to help forward another Revolution, becauſe they have it already in as full and ample a manner as it can be given them. All that he can add to this, is Liberty of Conſcience for Papiſts and the Repeal of the *Teſt*, which coſt him ſo much Cloſetting to no purpoſe, and now is promis'd as a Favour: What Proteſtant Diſſenters will think of it, I leave them to conſider.

But when he ſays. We are convinc'd in our Judgment that *Liberty of Conſcience* is moſt agreeable to the Laws, and to the Spirit of the *Chriſtian Religion*, me-thinks theſe two Kings treat one another with great Freedom. For what handſomer Complement could have been made to the *moſt Chriſtian King*, then to intimate that his Perſecution of his Proteſtant Subjects is not at all agreeable to the Laws, or to the Spirit of the *Chriſtian Religion?* This is Plain-dealing if the *French King* can bear it: But, I ſuppoſe they are agreed, that *K. J.* ſhall declare as is moſt fit for his purpoſe, and the *French* King do what is moſt convenient for his own.

DECLARATION.

Laſtly, It ſhall be our great Care by the Advice and Aſſiſtance, of our Parliament to repair the Breaches and heal the Wounds of the late Diſtractions, to reſtore Trade by putting the Act of Navigation in effectual Execution, which has been ſo much violated of late in favour of Strangers, to put our Navy and Stores into as good a Condition as we left them, to find the beſt ways of bringing back Wealth and Bullion to the Kingdom, which of late has been ſo much exhauſted, and generally we ſhall delight to ſpend the remainder of our Reign, (as we have always deſign'd ſince our coming to the Crown) in ſtudying to do every thing that may contribute to the Reeſtabliſhment of the Greatneſs of the English *Monarchy upon it's old and true Foundation the united Intereſt and Affection of the People.*

OBSERVATIONS.

What theſe Breaches and Wounds of the late Diſtractions are, he does not tell us, and therefore we muſt ſuppoſe they are ſuch as are here mentioned. As for reſtoring Trade, it has not been loſt yet; the *Cuſtom Houſe* does not complain of it, which is commonly the firſt that feels it. The *Navy* is in a much better Condition than he left it, if we may gueſs at that by its late Exploits: But if he be ſo well ſkilled in reſtoring Navies, he ought both in Charity and Gratitude now to ſtay a little longer in *France*. As for his bringing back Wealth and Bullion into the Nation, I believe the Nation would have been better pleaſed, if he would have promiſed to ſend none out. And as for his Concluding promiſe in theſe words, *And generally we ſhall delight to ſpend the Remainder of our Reign (as we always have deſign'd ſince our coming to the Crown) in ſtudying to do everything that may contribute to the Re-eſtabliſhment of the Great-*

Greatness of the English Monarchy upon its old and true Foundations the united Interest and Affection of the people. This is Plain-dealing, and surest to be made good of any thing in the Declaration. And if he does this now, as he always designed to do it (for he could not then do all that he designed to do) here is a renewed promise of *Popery* and *Arbitrary power*; And those are unpardonable Infidels, who will not take his word for it.

DECLARATION.

Thus having endeavoured to answer all Objections, and give all the Satisfaction we can think of to all Parties and Degrees of Men: We cannot want Our selves the satisfaction of having done all that can be done on our part whatever the event shall be, the Disposal of which we commit with great Resignation and Dependance to that God who judges Right: And on the other side, if any of our Subjects after all this shall remain so obstinate as to appear in Arms against us, as they must needs fall unpitied under the severity of our Justice, after having refused such gracious offers of Mercy, so they must be answerable to Almighty God for all the Blood that shall be spilt, and all the Miseries and Confusions in which these Kingdoms may happen to be involved by their desperate and unreasonable Opposition.

Given at Our Court at St. *Germains*, this present 20*th*. of *April*, 1692. in the Eighth Year of Our Reign.

Per ipsum Regem manu propriâ.

OBSERVATIONS.

Thus the Declaration ends, and it is time for me to end too. After these Observations you will be able to comprehend both the wise Design of this Declaration, and how likely it is to have its effect; provided it can but gain these two easy points. First, to persuade *King William* to quit the Crown for fear of losing it; And then prevail with the people to believe, that *two other Kings*, whom I will not name, will for this once put off their Natures, and out of a particular respect & kindness for the *English* Church and Nation quit all thoughts of introducing *Popery* and *Arbitray Power* here in *England*.

Once more, *Sir*,

Farewell.

FINIS.

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